

12-19-03

RCE/2876

PTO/SB/30 (10/01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/467,221
Filing Date	December 20, 1999
First Named Inventor	Takumi Okaue et al.
Group Art Unit	2876
Examiner Name	Ahshik Kim
Attorney Docket Number	450100-4465.1

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under CFR 1.114.

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
 - i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on ____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ____
 - iii. ☐ Other ____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other ____

RECEIVED
DEC 30 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of ____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☐ Other ____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. 50-0320.
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$770.00 is enclosed for the following:
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 12/23/2003 AHONDAF1 00000022 09467221
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 770.00 OP
 - iii. ☐ Other ____
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	William S. Fromme	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	25,506
Signature		Date	December 18, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type) <u>Charles J. Sison</u>		
Signature <u>Charles J. Sison</u>	Date	December 18, 2003
Express Mail™ mailing label number: EV 287821055 US		



PATENT
450100-4465.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Takumi OKAUE et al.
Serial No. : 09/467,221
For : EXTERNAL STORAGE APPARATUS AND CONTROL
— APPARATUS THEREOF, AND DATA TRANSMISSION RECEPTION
APPARATUS
Filed : December 20, 1999
Examiner : Ahshik Kim
Art Unit : 2876

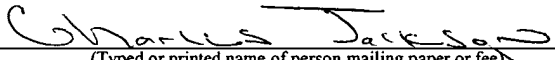
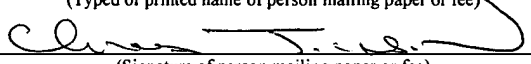
745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

EXPRESS MAIL

Mailing Label Number: **EV287821055US**

Date of Deposit: **December 18, 2003**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: **Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**


(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

RECEIVED
DEC 30 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION IN RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mail September 18, 2003. The present Amendment is being filed concurrently with the Request for Continued Examination.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: